

Testimony from:

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Montana has been my lifelong home. I have enjoyed shooting and hunting since I was a child and have owned guns since my teenage years in the 1940s.

I consider the gun tragedies we have experienced in recent years to be a serious issue that needs to be addressed by our nation. A civil society should not permit a problem of such magnitude, affecting so many lives, to continue without taking corrective measures.

As a gun owner I think it is only reasonable for me to submit any purchases or sales of guns to the National Instant Criminal Background Check System (NICS). I am convinced this would help keep guns out of the hands of dangerous people.

It seems imperative to me that we need political leadership to address this issue. I think it can make a real difference. We need leaders at the state and federal levels to make this issue a priority. In states that have improved mental health record sharing, one or more state actors have taken the lead in identifying and surmounting the logistical, legal and political obstacles to compliance. Other states have shown it can be done. We must take action in Montana. Thank you for being leaders on this issue.

02/13/14

Law and Justice Meeting
February 13 , 2014

Exhibit 13